

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 L-03 ACDA-05 SAM-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 PA-01

OMB-01 /061 W

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P R 100820Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA, JAPAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 9250

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, JA

SUBJ: US-JAPAN DEFENSE COOPERATION

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

REF: A. TOKYO 8705

B. TOKYO 9123

1. ACCORDING TO JULY 9 REPORTS IN MOST MAJOR JAPANESE DAILIES, NATIONAL DEFENSE COUNCIL WILL MEET JULY 15 TO CONSIDER US-JAPAN DEFENSE COOPERATION AND MILITARY SITUATION AROUND JAPAN. PRESS SPECULATES THAT, IF JDA PRINCIPLES FOR DEFENSE COOPERATION (REF A) WIN COUNCIL APPROVAL, IT WILL BECOME OFFICIAL GOJ POSITION FOR PM MIKI AND JDA DIRGEN SAKATA IN FORTHCOMING TALKS WITH US LEADERS (REF B). JULY 15 MEETING REPORTEDLY WILL BE ATTENDED BY MIKI, DEP PM FUKUDA, CHIEF CABINET SECRETARY IDE, FONMIN MIYAZAWA, FONMIN OHIRA, MITIMIN KOMOTO, STA DIRGEN SASAKI, AND JDA PERSONNEL INCLUDING SAKATA AND GEN SHIRAKAWA.

2. ARTICLES REITERATED JDA INTENTION TO AVOID CONCLUDING FORMAL TREATIES OR AGREEMENTS ON DEFENSE COOPERATION. RATHER, JDA IS CONFIDENTIAL

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SAID TO BE THINKING OF QTE ARRANGEMENT UNQTE WHICH WOULD ALLOW

OPERATIONAL COORDINATION UNDER SEPARATE US AND JAPANESE COMMANDS. AS PART OF THIS ARRANGEMENT, JDA DESIRES ESTABLISH JOINT US-JAPAN QTE CONSULTATIVE ORGANS UNQTE ON THREE LEVELS: MINISTERIAL, ADMINISTRATIVE, AND UNIFORMED.

3. REPORTEDLY, UPON SATISFACTORY CONCLUSION OF INITIAL CONSULTATIONS WITH US LEADERS, MATTER WOULD AGAIN BE REFERRED TO NATIONAL DEFENSE COUNCIL. MEANWHILE, JDA WILL TRY TO GENERATE PRELIMINARY CONSENSUS FOR THRUST OF ITS EFFORT AMONG CONCERNED MINISTRIES.

4. AS BACKGROUND FOR DISCUSSION OF JDA PROPOSAL, ASSESSMENT OF MILITARY SITUATION IN "POST-INDOCHINA" ASIA WILL BE PRESENTED AT JULY 15 MEETING. TOPICS ARE EXPECTED TO INCLUDE US ASIANA STRATEGY, KOREA, AND SOVIET PACIFIC FLEET.

5. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH WE DOUBT THAT MIKI WILL WISH TO GO INTO DETAILS OF SUCH JDA PROPOSAL WHEN HE VISITS WASHINGTON, WE ARE INCLINED TO TAKE REPORTS AT FACE VALUE AS REFLECTING CURRENT JDA THINKING. JDA DEFENSE BUREAU IS NOW BUSILY ENGAGED IN PREPARING PAPERS FOR NATIONAL DEFENSE COUNCIL MEETING, MAN PURPOSE OF WHICH WILL BE TO SET GUIDELINES FOR INITIAL SCHLESINGER-SAKATA MEETING IN LATE AUGUST. PROBLEM FOR JDA STAFFERS, IN ADDITION TO OBTAINING INTER-MINISTERIAL AGREEMENT ON GENERAL PRINCIPLES, WILL BE TO COME UP WITH SPECIFIC LANGUAGE DESCRIBING DEFENSE COOPERATION MEASURES TO BE ADOPTED WHICH WILL BE ACCPTABLE TO JAPANESE PUBLIC AGAINST BACKGROUND OF SAKATA'S "FOUR PRINCIPLES." END COMMENT.
HODGSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COLLECTIVE SECURITY, PRESS COMMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: johnsorg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TOKYO09250
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750239-0178
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750767/aaaachty.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 TOKYO 8705
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: johnsorg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 JUL 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <18 NOV 2003 by johnsorg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-JAPAN DEFENSE COOPERATION CINCPAC FOR POLAD
TAGS: MARR, JA, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006